

Henry Smith House  
12 Westside  
Wallace  
Shoshone County  
Idaho

HABS No. ID-82

HABS

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40. WAL,

16-

PHOTOGRAPHS

WRITTEN HISTORICAL AND DESCRIPTIVE DATA

Historic American Buildings Survey  
National Park Service  
Western Region  
Department of the Interior  
San Francisco, CA 94102

10-920  
1983)

UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR  
NATIONAL PARK SERVICE  
HISTORIC AMERICAN BUILDINGS SURVEY  
ARCHITECTURAL DATA FORM

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STATE Idaho	COUNTY Shoshone	TOWN OR VICINITY City of Wallace
HISTORIC NAME OF STRUCTURE (INCLUDE SOURCE FOR NAME) Henry Smith House (Smith first recorded owner and recorded owner for 28 years; previously unnamed)		HABS NO. ID-82
SECONDARY OR COMMON NAMES OF STRUCTURE		
COMPLETE ADDRESS (DESCRIBE LOCATION FOR RURAL SITES) 12 Westside, Wallace, Idaho (Legal: NP First Addition, Lot 4, Block 6)		
DATE OF CONSTRUCTION (INCLUDE SOURCE) Circa 1915 (See supplement)	ARCHITECT(S) (INCLUDE SOURCE) Not known	
SIGNIFICANCE (ARCHITECTURAL AND HISTORICAL, INCLUDE ORIGINAL USE OF STRUCTURE)  See supplement		
STYLE (IF APPROPRIATE)		
MATERIAL OF CONSTRUCTION (INCLUDE STRUCTURAL SYSTEMS)  See supplement		
TYPE AND DIMENSIONS OF STRUCTURE (SKETCHED FLOOR PLANS ON SEPARATE PAGES ARE ACCEPTABLE)  See Supplement		
EXTERIOR FEATURES OF NOTE  See supplement		
INTERIOR FEATURES OF NOTE (DESCRIBE FLOOR PLANS, IF NOT SKETCHED)  See supplement		
MAJOR ALTERATIONS AND ADDITIONS WITH DATES Minor remodeling including some newer interior walls, added wall between bedroom and closet, newer roofing, stove base and back, newer covering on back porch exterior, garage and covered walkway (dates unknown).		
PRESENT CONDITION AND USE Condition fair, currently vacant		
OTHER INFORMATION AS APPROPRIATE  House is scheduled to be torn down in 1988 to make way for a motel-restaurant-gift shop complex.		
SOURCES OF INFORMATION (INCLUDING LISTING ON NATIONAL REGISTER, STATE REGISTERS, ETC.) Natl. Register of Historic Places, Safeco Title Co., Shoshone County Assessor's Office, Sanborn Fire Maps, Barnard-Stockbridge Photo Collection, Richard Magnuson, Harry Olson, Wallace, Public Library, Minnesota State Historical Society		
COMPILER, AFFILIATION Michael J. Green, Depot Productions, Wallace, Idaho		DATE March 31, 1988

## HENRY SMITH HOUSE

### HISTORICAL SIGNIFICANCE

The Smith House, 12 Westside, is a contributing element of the Wallace Historic District and is located in a residential area containing homes constructed between 1910 and 1920.

The City of Wallace was first settled in 1884. It is located along the South Fork of the Coeur d'Alene River and at the mouth of three side creeks and gulches amid North Idaho's steep Panhandle. The founding of the town followed discovery of fabulous lead-silver deposits in the surrounding mountains. As mining activity quickly grew, so did the town. By 1887 the population was 500, which grew to 2,816 by 1920 (U.S. Census Bureau).

The town flourished from mining activities, and Wallace became known as the Silver Capital of the World because more silver has been extracted from the Coeur d'Alene Mining District, with Wallace as the hub, than any place on earth.

Much of the town was located on a cedar swamp, which was drained as growth occurred. The west end of town containing this house was drained and developed last. Northern Pacific Railway first owned this land in west Wallace. NP leased to private individuals this land on which was built many homes. NP deeded the land to the homeowners in a period from 1920 to 1925. This addition to the town is known as the NP First Addition.

Dating exact construction of most of the houses is difficult because the first deeding of the property occurred after the homes were built. The Minnesota State Historical Society, Archives Manuscripts Division, which possesses defunct NP's records, could not locate copies of the original leases. Early fire maps and photographs show no homes built in that area prior to 1910. Most of the homes, then, were constructed from 1910-1920.

These dates were confirmed by Harry Olson, who has lived in west Wallace since 1922. He said in an interview most of the houses in west Wallace were already constructed when he moved there in 1922. He was 10 years old at the time.

Olson remembers nothing distinctive about west Wallace other than it being an ordinary residential part of town. Its residents were a mixture of business and working people, including miners, a druggist, county commissioner and even "bootleggers." The streets were paved in the addition about 1920, Olson said. A flood in 1933 caused considerable damage to the streets and homes, he

said.

As mining activity in the district began to decline in the 1970s and 1980s, so did the number of jobs and demand for homes. The 1980 population of Wallace was 1,800 (U.S. Census Bureau). The character of some homes changed as they went from owner-occupied to rentals. Some deteriorated from lack of care. (Some had been rentals for most of their existence.)

Because of the fast growth of the town in a short time span, Wallace contains a unique homogenous blend of architecture, which led to first a few buildings, then the downtown district, then the entire core of town listed on the National Register of Historic Places.

Mining towns tend to have a transient population, and many homes have had numerous owners as a result. The names provided for the houses emphasize the longest-term owners or tenants.

The first recorded deeding of this house is from NP to Henry Smith, Feb. 23, 1921. The house was deeded to Henry's wife, Margaret Smith, in probate court, June 24, 1946, after Henry died. The house was deeded to George Larson, Aug. 26, 1947. George Larson died in 1967 in Wallace. His widow, Myrtle, later married Harold Lindley. Myrtle died in 1982. Heirs of George Larson and Myrtle deeded the house to Jerry E. Moore, Dec. 4, 1985 (recorded date). Finally, the house was deeded to J. Kimball Barnard of Spokane, Wa., Oct. 29, 1987 (recorded date).

#### EXTERIOR FEATURES

The house is wood frame, rectangular and has a wood pier foundation. The crawl space is covered with a variety of materials that include wood shingles, tar paper and corrugated metal roofing material. The siding is wood shiplap painted a rust color. The rear enclosed porch is sided with grooved plywood (T-111) siding, vertical in design.

The roof is side gabled with a medium pitch and is covered with composition shingles on the front and corrugated metal in back. Shed roofs cover the enclosed rear porch and the front open porch. The front porch extends nearly the entire length of the facade. The open side porch has a shed roof with corrugated fiberglass covering. A covered stairway from the back porch has a gable roof with aluminum roofing. The eaves are boxed.

The windows (located on all four sides) are wood set within wood trim. Some of the windows have storm windows either of aluminum

or homemade out of wood and clear plastic. The windows are double sash varying from 1/1, 2/2 and 4/1.

An off-center brick chimney extends from the front roof slope.

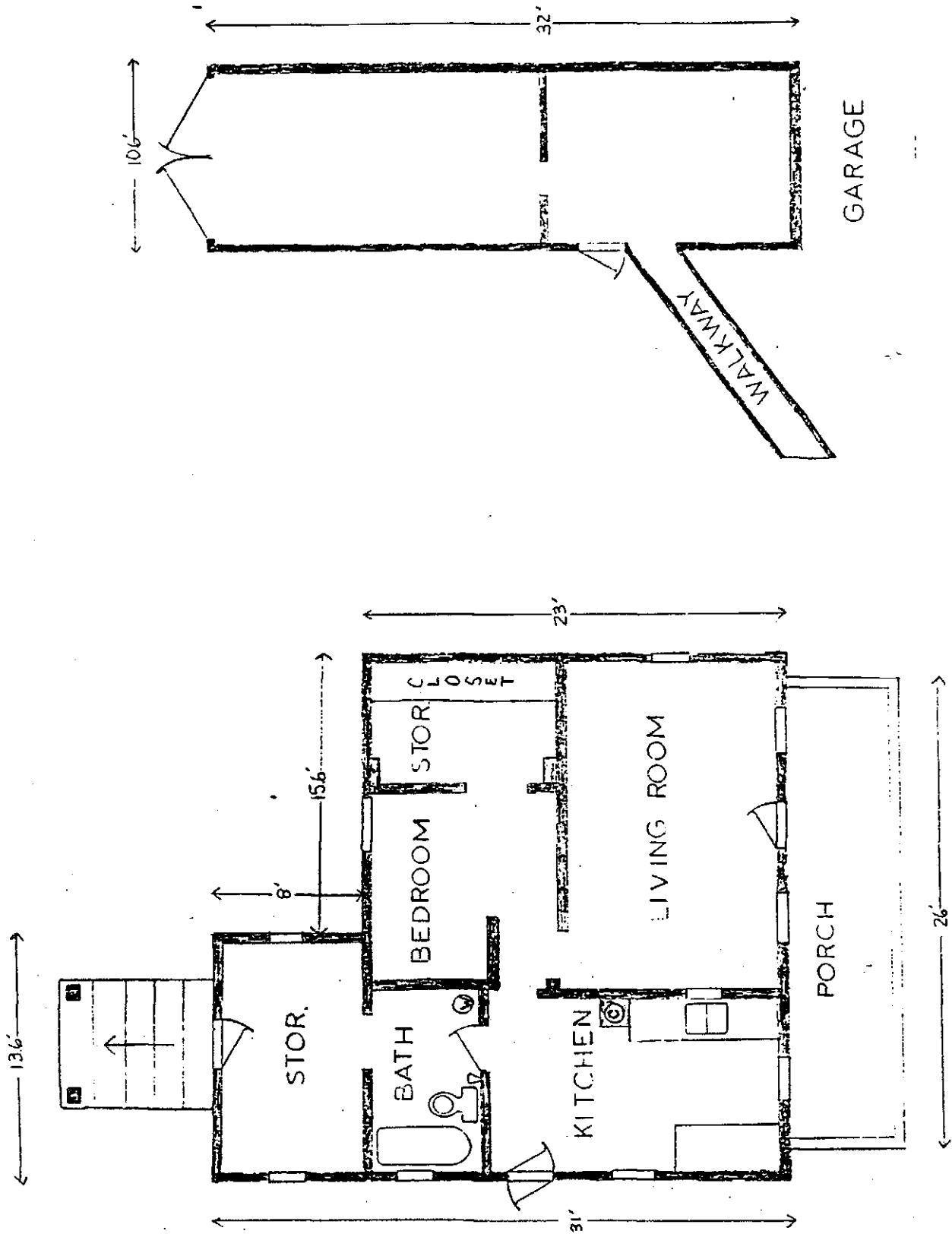
A detached garage is located in back of the house. A covered walkway leads to the garage from the back porch. The garage is wood frame with wood siding, dirt floor and gable roof with wood shingle covering. The interior has suffered from fire damage. Shoshone County records estimate the garage was built in 1930.

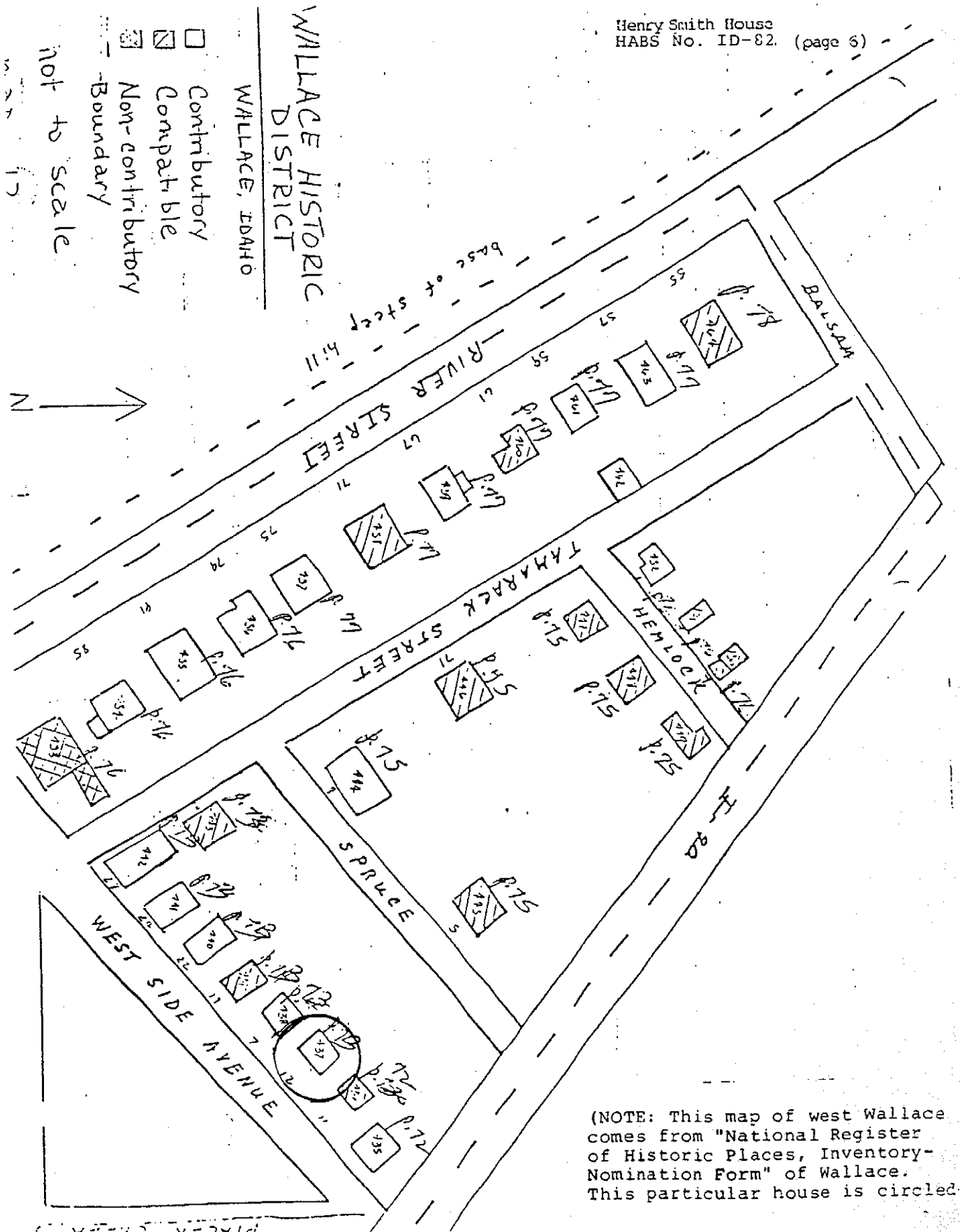
#### INTERIOR FEATURES

The interior walls (except the kitchen and bathroom) are board wood. Covering the wood is an original fiberboard material, which has been covered with paneling on some walls. A brick chimney joins the walls separating the kitchen and living room. A stove base and back in the living room is comprised of freeform rock and mortar. Barn wood has been added to this same wall between the kitchen and front room. The kitchen and bathroom walls are sheetrock with wainscoting halfway up. The floors are covered with linoleum except for the living room which has a new plywood subflooring. The window trim is painted wood.

The kitchen cabinets are softwood, and there is a double aluminum sink. Doors open to the front, back and south side.

SCALE 1/8"=1'  
K.A. STALEY





(NOTE: This map of west Wallace comes from "National Register of Historic Places, Inventory-Nomination Form" of Wallace. This particular house is circled.